and presented by 'Appraisal Group' consisting of the Heads of Govrnment of ten member countries during the summit;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the stand taken by India thereon;

(e) whather Pakistan raised Kashmir issue during the meet; and

(f) if so, what was the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Common-health Finance Ministers meeting in Kuala Lumpur had recommended to CHOGM that steps should be taken to encourage consideration at a high political level of a number of developmental issues, identified in a Commonwealth Experts Group report entitled 'Change for the Better'. CHOGM had decided upon the steps to promote further consideration of the report and discussion of the issues raised therein.

(c) and (d). A High Level Appraisal Group of ten countries, at the Heads of Government level, deliberated mainly on the Future role of the Commonwealth in the 1990s and beyond. The Group identified the pricrities for the Commonwealth in the future and these are reflected in the Harare Defclaration, which was adopted by CHOGM. India was member of the Group and participated actively in the deliberations.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Raw Jute Production

1204. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the production of raw jute during 1991-92; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target and to make Indian jute competitive in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The production target of raw jute for the year 1991-92 has been fixed at 91 lakh bales of 180 kg. each.

(b) In order to achieve the production target, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Special Jute Development Programme in 50 selected Districts of 8 majoute/mesta/sunnhemp growing states of Andhra Pradesh Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Under the scheme Government of India is providing financial assistance on production and distribution of certified/quality seeds of jute, mesta and sunnhemp, plant protection measures, demonstrations of improved technology, construcfion of retting tanks, distribution of fungal culture, etc. Expenditure on various development items are met in full by Government of India.

In order to make Indian Jute competitive in the international market, Govt. have taken several measures including grant of REP @ 30% on exports, extension External Market Assistance @ 10% on FOB value of diversified jute products meant for the export market, implementation of Export Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme to share lossess, if any, on export of jute goods against high volume global contracts, allowing import of specified items of jute machinery at concessional rate of customs duty, implementation of modernisation programme to improve productivity and efficiency etc.

New coal making policy

1205. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose